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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/090,862	03/05/2002	Naoki Oguchi	FUJ 19.011	5895
26304 7590 03/29/2007 KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN LLP 575 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10022-2585			EXAMINER LEVITAN, DMITRY	
			ART UNIT 2616	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE 3 MONTHS			MAIL DATE 03/29/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/090,862	OGUCHI, NAOKI	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Dmitry Levitan	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 March 2007.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 9-14 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6, 8, 15-17 and 20 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 5, 7, 18, 19 and 21 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Amendment, filed 03/08/07, has been entered. Claims 1-21 remain pending.

Specification

In light of Applicant's amendment, the objection to the specification has been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

In light of Applicant's amendment, the rejection of claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. 102, has been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. Claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 15, 17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (US 6, 079,020).

2. Regarding claims 1, 8 and 15, Liu substantially teaches the limitations of the claims.

A packet relaying apparatus and method (VPN management station 160 on Fig. 1, 4 and 5, 5:55-6:65) comprising:

first means/network relaying unit for selecting one or more transmission destination virtual private network identifiers which are allowed to relay a received packet based on a transmission source virtual private network identifier related to the received packet (portion of VPN management station 160 selecting a list of all VPN gateways of the VPN network, as shown on Fig. 1, utilizing VPN objects, shown on Fig. 6 and 9:28-50, wherein the VPN gateways are potential destinations for the received packet, Fig. 9 and 10:25-40);

second means/domain replaying unit for selecting one or more transmission destination domains corresponding to each of said one or more transmission destination virtual private

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network identifiers, wherein transmission destination domains corresponds to a plurality of destination client identifications and masks (portion of VPN management station 160 selecting destination domains corresponding to the VPN network, as shown on Fig. 1, utilizing Client object 630, disclosed on 9:50-58, which is created for each remote client and identified by a plurality of attributes, as disclosed on 9:52-57, wherein all group objects are identified by using appropriate masks, 10:37-49);

third means/routing information management unit for collating, using a mask, a next relaying apparatus address of the received packet with each routing information stored in one or more domain relaying means which corresponds to each of the one or more domains to select the next relaying apparatus address (portion of VPN management station 160, used for masking and collating VPN gateways to route VPN packets, as shown on Fig. 9 and 10:40-56, wherein all the domains of the VPN are interconnected with VPN configuration information specifying the destination address conversion for each VPN gateway); and

fourth means/packet relaying unit for transmitting the received packet in accordance with the next relaying apparatus address selected by the third means (Network interface card 408 of VPN management station 160, interconnected with network 100, as shown on Fig. 4 and 8:43-60, inherently operating under the management operation of the masking and collating, because this operation is essential for the proper routing of the packets).

Liu does not teach using domain identifiers and client destination addresses for identifying clients.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add using domain identifiers and client destination addresses for identifying clients.

to the system of Liu to improve the system operation with multiple domains, by assigning identifiers to the domains to simplify the domain identification and using client destination addresses together with clients users names to simplify the domain organization.

In addition, regarding claims 3 and 17, Liu teaches the packets as IP packets including IP addresses (IP addresses 3:39-43).

In addition, regarding claims 6 and 20, Liu inherently teaches using routing filter to set the routing information, because any routing information selection is a filtering operation as it excludes other entries of the routing table.

3. Claims 2 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu in view of Li (US 6,751,220).

Liu substantially teaches the limitations of claims 2 and 16 (see claim 1, 8 and 15 rejection above).

Liu does not teach identifying a transmission source VPN identifier corresponding to a receiving interface from which the received packet has been received.

Li teaches identifying a transmission source VPN identifier corresponding to a receiving interface from which the received packet has been received (packet processing module 28 on Fig. 2 performing step 400 of Fig. 4, which identifies the VPN identifier of the received packet based on the interface that receives the packet 5:30-44).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add identifying a transmission source VPN identifier corresponding to a receiving interface from which the received packet has been received of Li to the system of Liu to improve the system operation by simplifying the identification of the received packet and improve the

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system security by adding specific interface for the identifying a received packet as the VPN packet.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 9-14 are allowed.
5. Claims 4, 5, 7, 18, 19 and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 3/08/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

On pages 12 and 13 of the Response, Applicant argues that Liu does not teach claims 1, 8 and 15 limitations, as recently amended, and directed to domain identifiers corresponding to a plurality of destination addresses and masks.

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Liu clearly teaches a system comprising numerous clients, identified by a client object 630 on Fig. 6, as each client belongs to multiple virtual private networks and comprise multiple attributes to identify each remote client. Therefore, using remote clients destination addresses together with client's users names will simplify the domain organization and structure, as stated in the claims rejection above, as destination addresses are often used with the clients user's

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names and other client related information in client databases to avoid additional step of extracting a destination address, which is essential for the routing, from a separate database.

In addition, Liu teaches using masks for identifying appropriate fields in the system, as clearly shown on step 908 of Fig. 9 and 10:26-56.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dmitry Levitan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3093. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 to 4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached on (571) 272-7529. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


DMITRY LEVITAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Dmitry Levitan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2616